	IN THE UNITED STATES PA	TENT A	ND TRADEMARK OFFICE
In re appl	ication of:	) Ex	aminer: Kemmerer, Elizabeth
Kevin P.	BAKER, et al DEC 1 2 2005	) Ar	t Unit: 1646
Application	on Serial No. 09	) ) Co	onfirmation No. 8312
Filed: Au	ugust 28, 2001	) ) At	torney's Docket No. 39780-2730 P1C1
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	S MAIL LABEL NO. <u>EV 765 988 830 V</u> AILED: DECEMBER 12, 2005	<u>JS</u>	·
	PETITION FOR DESIGNATION UNDER 3	AS NEW ( 7 C.F.R. §1	
Commissione P.O. Box 14 Alexandria,	P PETITION er for Patents 50 Virginia 22313-1450		
Sir:			
	••	iminer's Ar	swer was mailed on October 12, 2005 in
this case. Th	nis petition is filed:		
$\boxtimes$	within two months of the mailing	of the Exan	niner's Answer.
The	proposed Reply Brief		
П	has been filed;		
$\boxtimes$	is attached;		
$\boxtimes$	with a request for Oral Hearing; and		
$\boxtimes$	•		ection in the Examiner's Answer under 37
_	CFR §1.181		SDENBOB1 00000042 081641 09941992
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### **STATEMENT**

An Appellants' Appeal Brief was filed on July 26, 2005 and an Examiner's Answer was mailed on October 12, 2005 in this case. Concurrent with the filing of this Petition, Applicants are filing a Reply Brief and a request for an Oral Hearing.

Appellants submit that a number of grounds of rejection set forth in the Examiner's answer mailed on October 12, 2005 constitute new grounds of rejection. Appellants request that the grounds of rejection identified below and the six new references which are being cited in the Examiner's Answer in support of the grounds of rejection be designated new grounds of rejection. Appellants request a corrected Examiner's Answer which identifies the rejections as new grounds for rejection. Appellants further request that prosecution be reopened.

The Examiner has raised <u>six new references</u> for the <u>first</u> time in the Examiner's response. They are:

- (1) Hittelman, 2001, Ann NY Acad. Sci 952:1-12;
- (2) LaBaer; 2003, Nature Biotechnology 21:976-977;
- (3) Chen et al.; 2002, Molecular and Cellular Proteomics 1:304-313;
- (4) Gygi et al.; 1999, Mol. Cell. Biol. 19:1720-1730;
- (5) Lian et al. 2001, Blood 98:513-524; and
- (6) Fessler et al, 2002, J. Biol. Chem. 277:31291-31302.

These references were not previously cited in any of the prior rejections of record. Appellants submit that the citation of such new prior art references for the first time in an Examiner's answer constitutes a new ground of rejection and is not permissible.

## Legal Analysis

The M.P.E.P. Section 1207.03 (III) states that:

A new prior art reference cited for the first time in an examiner's answer generally will constitute a new ground of rejection. If the citation of a new prior art reference is necessary to support a rejection, it must be included in the statement of rejection, which would be considered to introduce a new ground of rejection. Even if the prior art reference is cited to support the rejection in a minor capacity, it should be positively included in the statement of rejection. *In re Hoch*, 428 F.2d 1341, 1342 n.3, 166 USPQ 406, 407 n. 3 (CCPA 1970). However, where a newly cited reference is added merely as evidence of the prior well known statement made by the examiner, the citation of the reference in the examiner's answer would not constitute a new ground of rejection within the meaning of 37 CFR §1.192(a) (2). See also MPEP §2144.03.

The M.P.E.P. adds that:

In addition, if an Appellant has clearly set forth an argument in a previous reply during prosecution of the application and the Examiner has failed to address that argument, the Examiner would not be permitted to add a new ground of rejection in the Examiner's answer to respond to that argument but would be permitted to reopen prosecution, if appropriate. (Emphasis added; See M.P.E.P. §1207.03; Requirements for a new ground of rejection, II).

The Court of Customs and Patent Appeals considered this situation in *In re Hoch*, 428 F.2d 1341, 1342 n.3, 166 USPQ 406, 407 n. 3 (CCPA 1970). In that case there were two other references cited in the appeal which were not mentioned in the statement of either of the appealed rejections. The court held:

Appellant's complaint seems to be justified, and if we did not find the rejections based solely on Molotsky and the French patent to be sound, we might well feel constrained to reverse the decision of the board. Where a reference is relied on to support a rejection, whether or not in a "minor capacity" there would appear to be no excuse for not positively including the reference in the statement of rejection.

Appellants note that a Reply Brief must be in compliance with the requirements set forth in 37 C.F.R. §41.41. New or non-admitted affidavits and/or other evidence are not permitted in a reply brief.

For the detailed reasons set forth below, Appellants submit that the citation for the first time of these six references constitute a new ground of rejection and accordingly such rejections are not permissible.

#### **Detailed Analysis**

(1) Hittelman, 2001, Ann NY Acad. Sci 952:1-12

The Examiner cites Hittelman for the first time on pages 5, line 17 - page 6, line 11, where the Examiner states:

"the literature reports that lung epithelium is at risk for cellular damage due to direct exposure to environmental pollutants and carcinogens, which result in aneuploidy *before* the epithelial cells turn cancerous. See Hittelman who teach that damaged, precancerous lung epithelium is often aneuploid. See especially p.4, Figure 4. The gene amplification assay in the specification does not provide a direct comparison between the lung tumor samples and normal lung epithelium."

The Examiner cites Hittelman throughout the Examiner's Answer at, for example, page 14, lines 15-17; page 17, lines 8-15; page 25, lines 7-12; and page 31, lines 2-19.

The Examiner had not previously raised the issue of an euploidy in damaged precancerous lung epithelium or the citation, Hittelman.

Appellants submit that they are unable to adequately rebut the Hittelman reference and each of the rejections based on Hittelman without presenting substantive evidence of their own. The M.P.E.P.

and the case law clearly state that the Examiner is not allowed to make new grounds of rejection and cite a new reference. Furthermore, it is inequitable to allow the Examiner to do so without allowing Appellants to present evidence in rebuttal. Appellants submit that the citation of Hittelman and raising of the grounds of rejection based on Hittelman constitute new grounds of rejection.

# (2) LaBaer; 2003, Nature Biotechnology 21:976-977

The Examiner cites LaBaer for the first time on page 7, line 22 - page 8, line 4; where she states that:

"One of the authors of this paper, Dr. LaBaer made an even stronger statement that reports of mRNA or protein changes of as little as two fold are not uncommon, and although changes of this magnitude may turn out to be important, most are attributable to disease-independent differences between the samples."

The Examiner cites LaBaer throughout the Examiner's Answer, for example, in support of rejections at page 11, lines 6-7; page 12, lines 5-7; page 14, line 19 - page 15, line 2; page 18, line 18 - page 19, line 1; page 22, line 19 - page 23, line 1; page 25, lines 14 - page 26, line 7; page 27, lines 13-19, page 28, lines 14-18; page 29, lines 16-19; page 39, lines 18-21; page 44, lines 15-22; page 48, lines 11-19; and page 51, lines 11-19.

In this case, the Examiner's basis for rejection that differences of as little as two fold are not uncommon and that changes of this magnitude relate to disease-independent differences between the samples" is being made for the first time.

Appellants submit that they are unable to adequately rebut the LaBaer reference and each of the rejections based on LaBaer without presenting substantive evidence of their own. The M.P.E..P. and the case law clearly state that the Examiner is not allowed to make new grounds of rejection and cite a new reference, LaBaer. Furthermore, it is inequitable to allow the Examiner to do so without allowing Appellants to present evidence in rebuttal. Appellants submit that the citation of LaBaer and raising of the grounds of rejection based on LaBaer constitute new grounds of rejection.

## (3) Chen et al.; 2002, Molecular and Cellular Proteomics 1:304-313

The Examiner states at page 7, lines 6-14 of the Examiner's response that "Chen *et al.*, (2002, Molecular and Cellular Proteomics 1:304-313) compared mRNA and protein expression for a cohort of genes in the same lung carcinomas. Only 17% of 165 protein spots or 21% of genes had significant correlation between protein and mRNA expression levels. Chen *et al.* clearly state that "the use of mRNA expression patterns by themselves, however, is insufficient for understanding the expression of protein products."

The Examiner makes reference to specific experimental details and statistical percentages present in the Chen reference for the first time. This constitutes a new ground of rejection.

The Examiner cites Chen throughout the Examiner's Answer, for example, in support of rejections at page 11, lines 4-10; page 12, lines 5-7; page 14, line 19 - page 15, line 2; page 16, lines 1-4; page 18, lines 2-10; page 22, lines 15-22; page 25, lines 14-20; page 27, lines 13-19; page 28, lines 10-14; page 29, lines 17-19; page 39, lines 18-20; page 41, line 16 - page 42, line 6; page 44, lines 13-15, page 48, lines 11-14 and page 51, lines 11-14.

Appellants submit that they are unable to adequately rebut the Chen reference and each of the rejections based on Chen without presenting substantive evidence of their own. The M.P.E.P. and the case law clearly state that the Examiner is not allowed to make new grounds of rejection and cite a new reference, Chen. Furthermore, it is inequitable to allow the Examiner to do so without allowing Appellants to present evidence in rebuttal. Appellants submit that the citation of Chen and raising of the grounds of rejection based on Chen constitute new grounds of rejection.

- (4) Gygi et al.; 1999, Mol. Cell. Biol. 19:1720-1730;
- (5) Lian et al. 2001, Blood 98:513-524; and
- (6) Fessler *et al*, 2002, J. Biol. Chem. 277:31291-31302

Similarly, regarding (4) Gygi, (5) Lian and (6) Fessler, the Examiner cites these references for the first time in the Examiner's Answer on pages 8 through 9. The Examiner states that "Gygi conducted a similar study with over 150 polypeptides," "Lian show a similar lack of correlation in mammalian (mouse cells)," and "Fessler found poor concordance between mRNA transcript and protein expression changes in human cells." These references are presented for the first time and hence, constitutes a new ground of rejection.

These references are further cited throughout the Examiner's Answer in support of various rejections at, for example, page 11, lines 4-10; page 12, lines 5-7; page 14, line 19 - page 15, line 2; page 16, lines 1-4; page 19, line 8 - page 20, line 1, including a quote from Gygi; page 22, line 20 - page 23, line 1; page 25, lines 14-20; page 27, lines 13-19; page 28, lines 14-18; page 29, lines 17-19; page 39, lines 18-20; page 44, lines 13-15, page 48, lines 11-14 and page 51, lines 11-14.

Appellants submit that they are unable to adequately rebut these references and each of the rejections based on these references without presenting substantive evidence of their own. The M.P.E.P. and the case law clearly state that the Examiner is not allowed to make new grounds of rejection and cite a new reference. Furthermore, it is inequitable to allow the Examiner to do so without allowing Appellants to present evidence in rebuttal. Appellants submit that the citation of these references and

raising of the grounds of rejection based on these references constitute new grounds of rejection.

Appellants further request that prosecution be reopened.

Appellants submit that this issue of the new grounds of rejections is being timely raised by the filing of this petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.181 with necessary fees and concurrently, with the filing of a Reply Brief within the two month period set for the Appellants' response.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 12, 2005

By: Vol. (Reg. No. 37.047)

HELLER EHRMAN LLP

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			Filing Date			AUGUST 28, 2001			
			First Named Inventor			KEVIN P. BAKER			
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						KEMMERER, ELIZABETH			
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Version With Markings Showing Changes		PETITION FOR DESIGNATION AS NEW GROUNDS OF REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.181				Status Letter			
☐ Affidavits/declaration(s) ☐ Extension of Time Request		Power of Attorney, by Assignee to Exclusion of Inventor Under 37 C.F.R.				ADDITIONAL ENCLOSURE(S) (PLEASE IDENTIFY BELOW):			
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